# Non-Medical Authorisation of Blood Components

## WHO IS THIS FOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Senior nurses and midwives who are working towards making the clinical decision and providing the written instruction for blood component transfusion.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

## THE AIM OF THE PROGRAMME

To provide senior nurses and midwives with the theoretical knowledge so they can work towards making the clinical decision and providing the written instruction for blood component transfusion.

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

You should be able to:

- Explain the mechanisms used throughout the donation journey to ensure the safety of blood
- Discuss key aspects of blood transfusion legislation and haemovigilance in the UK
- Describe how the body maintains haemostasis and how to interpret laboratory results including full blood counts
- Understand pre-transfusion testing including compatibility testing and the importance of blood group antibodies in blood transfusion
- List the steps in the transfusion process
- Describe the indications for use of red cells, platelets and plasma and the different types of specific transfusion requirements
- Identify the risks and adverse events associated with blood transfusion
- Describe the causes and treatment of anaemia and use of alternatives to blood transfusion

## WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAMME COVER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Haemopoiesis, coagulation and anaemia</th>
<th>Hazards of transfusion and reporting adverse reactions and events</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blood components, specific requirements</td>
<td>Indications for the use of red cells, platelets and plasma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABO and Rh blood group systems</td>
<td>Transfusion alternatives and the clinical management of patients who refuse a blood transfusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-transfusion testing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaining informed consent for blood transfusion</td>
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</tbody>
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## ATTENDEES MUST

- Be in an area of clinical practice where making the clinical decision to transfuse and authorising blood components is relevant
- Have the Trust’s written permission to undertake the course as part of service development
- Have an identified clinical mentor to support learning in practice

(Please note that the above will be verified by NHSBT with the Trust via your Transfusion Practitioner)

## ATTENDEES SHOULD

- Be current with transfusion training and relevant transfusion competencies in their Trust
Complete the modules ‘Safe Transfusion Practice’ and ‘Blood Components and Indications for Use’ on the e-learning package LearnBloodTransfusion via one of the following platforms:

• LearnPro NHS learning management system at [www.learnbloodtransfusion.org.uk](http://www.learnbloodtransfusion.org.uk) or
• E-learning for Health at [www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/blood-transfusion](http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/blood-transfusion) or
• The National Learning Management System at [http://www.esrsupport.co.uk/catalogue.php5](http://www.esrsupport.co.uk/catalogue.php5)

You must forward a copy of your certificates prior to attending the course.

You will be sent all other relevant materials 4-6 weeks before your programme date.

**Course Time / Locations**

Day 1: 10:00 – 16:00  
Day 2: 09:00 – 15:30  
Day 3: 10:00 – 15:30  

Dates and locations can be viewed on our [courses](#)  

**Further information…**  
To book a place on this course please complete the [registration form](#).  

For enquiries, email [nhsbt.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:nhsbt.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk)